

Kitchen & Bath | Decorative Hardware | by Dave Holbrook

New Line.

A whopping 130 decorative pieces make up the new *Allison Cabinet Hardware* series. The trend-driven designs are sold in most major home centers and hardware stores for about \$3 each.



Amerock, 800/435-6959,
www.amerock.com.



Leather Look.

The *Paradigm Collection* offers coordinated knobs, pulls, towel bars, and more in metal and genuine leather. Finish variations include black leather or brown suede in polished chrome or brushed nickel. Prices range from \$22 for a cabinet knob to \$140 for a toiletries shelf.

Atlas Homewares, 800/799-6755,
www.atlashomewares.com.



Happy Hardware. If you've got a client looking for whimsical cabinet hardware that wears its heart on its sleeve, look no further than HobKnobs' many offerings. Prices run from \$7.50 to \$22 apiece.

HobKnobs, 770/631-4080, www.hobknobs.net.

French Chic.

Rich metal finishes and jewel-faceted glass distinguish the coordinated cabinet knobs and door pulls in this French maker's *Collection de Lalique* (right) and *Collection Cristal* (below). Put a



high-class finishing

touch on your clients' kitchen and bath for \$270 to \$790 per knob.

THG USA, 954/425-8225, www.thgusa.com.



Kitchen & Bath | Tile-Setting Problem-Solvers



Seamless Underlayment. Pour uneven subfloors flat with self-leveling *SL-150*, a polymer-modified cement designed for use under tile — ceramic, stone, or vinyl — hardwood, and carpet. The product can be used in thicknesses of up to one inch and hardens in about four hours. A 50-pound bag costs between \$17 and \$27, depending on the distributor; a one-gallon can of required universal primer costs about \$30.

Bostik, 888/592-8558, www.bostik-us.com.

Mold-Stopper. Antimicrobial technology prevents fungal growth in *TexRite Grout*, claims the maker. Sanded and unsanded versions come in 25-pound bags at a cost determined by individual distributors.

Texas Cement Products, 800/669-0115, www.texrite.com.



Sure Stick. Here's a tile-setting mortar formulated to eliminate back-buttering and ensure 100 percent coverage for full, superior contact between tile and underlayment. Polymer-modified *Ultracontact* comes in 50-pound bags, mixes with five quarts of water, and can be walked on after 24 hours. Price varies by distributor.

Mapei, 800/426-2734, www.mapei.com.